

9. LEARNING DIFFICULTY

There is a specialist multi-disciplinary Community Team for people with learning disabilities. There are also other services provided by health and social services, voluntary organisations and education services.

Community Team for People with Learning Disability

The Community Team for people with a learning disability was set up jointly by health and social services. It aims to provide a co-ordinated service for people over 14 with severe learning disabilities (Full scale IQ less than 70) and brings together people from the following professions:

- community learning disability nurse
- speech and language therapy
- social work
- psychiatry
- clinical psychology
- occupational therapy
- physiotherapy

Professionals offer an assessment of needs of the person with learning disability and their carers and help identify services and support to meet those needs. Professional services include skills training, counselling, advocacy, management of physical and mobility needs, help in addressing emotional, relationship and behavioural difficulties and provision of information. The team offers a specialist service, supporting individuals and carers over a range of problems.

Carers can contact the Community Team direct at: 72 Stockbridge Road, Chichester, PO19 8QJ. Tel: 01243 813400

Aldingbourne Trust

The Trust provides services for people between the ages of 18-65 yrs throughout West Sussex with learning disabilities. It provides accommodation and sheltered employment in horticulture, furniture restoration, retailing and catering. Also offers training in a wide variety of craft skills and prepares students for open/sheltered employment. Contact: Aldingbourne Trust, Blackmill Lane, Norton, Chichester, PO18 0JP. Tel: 01243 544607 Website: www.aldingbournetrust.co.uk
Email: info@aldingbournetrust.co.uk

Breakaway – Supported employment service *See entry in Chapter 15, Other Illnesses and Disabilities*

British Institute of Learning Disabilities

For the improvement of lives of people in the UK with a learning disability.
Tel: 01562 723010 Website: www.bild.org.uk

Carer Support Worker – Learning Difficulties

If you are looking after someone who has learning difficulties, we at the Carers Support Service are now able to offer you support. This includes supplying information, planning for the future and providing regular contact to discuss any concerns that you may have as a carer or the person you care for.

Contact Pam Thomson Tel: 01243 537011 on Tues & Thurs 9.30am-5pm or Weds 1.30pm-5pm.

Email: pam.thomson@carerssupportservice.org.uk

Challenging Behaviour Foundation

Offers information and support to parents, carers and professionals of people with severe learning difficulties that present challenging behaviour.

Tel: 01634 838739 Website: www.challengingbehaviour.org.uk

Down's Syndrome Association

Provides support for people with Down's Syndrome, their families and friends. Contact Helen Gurnhill Tel: 01243 602503 or for your

local group please call the helpline on Tel: 0845 230 0372 (Mon-Fri 10am-4pm)

Website: www.downs-syndrome.org.uk

Email: info@downs-syndrome.org.uk



Eye to Eye

National telephone and website information service called 'Look Up' about eye care for people with learning difficulties.

Tel: 0800 121 8900. Website: www.lookupinfo.org

Foundation for People with Learning Disabilities

This organisation promotes the rights, quality of life and opportunities of people with learning disabilities and their families, by working with them their families and those who support them. Tel: 020 7803 110.

Website: www.learningdisabilities.org.uk

Impact Advocacy Service

Provides independent advocacy to adults with learning difficulties throughout West Sussex. People can self-refer or be referred by others, including social workers, relatives, friends, doctors and other professionals.

Tel: 01903 718260 (Mon-Fri 9-5pm and 24-hour answerphone)

Website: www.impact-initiatives.org.uk Email: advocacy@impact-initiatives.org.uk

L'Arche

Provides residential and day care homes for adults with learning disabilities in a Christian community. Contact: Bradbury House, 51 Aldwick Road, Bognor Regis, PO21 2NJ Tel: 01243 863426 Website: www.l'arche.org.uk/bognor

Email: bognor@l'arche.org.uk

Mencap - Bognor, Chichester and District Society

Mencap is a leading UK charity working with children and adults with a learning disability, their families and carers. It campaigns for greater opportunities, civil and equal rights, and better services. For information and advice contact the National Learning Disability Helpline on: 0808 808 1111 (Mon-Fri 9:30am-4:30pm)

Mencap West Sussex District Officer: 01243 826448 National Tel: 020 7454 0454

Website: www.mencap.org.uk Email: information@mencap.org.uk

Bognor and Chichester Mencap offers a local welfare and support network for people living in Bognor Regis, Chichester and surrounding areas. It holds meetings on the second Thursday of each month, all welcome. It runs Gateway

leisure clubs in Bognor (Tuesday evenings, contact Pip Linberry) and Chichester (Monday evenings 7-9pm Apuldram Centre, contact Richard Manning).

There is also a Drop-In centre for people with learning difficulties and their carers, at the Fernleigh Centre, Cellar Bar, 40 North Street, Chichester on Mondays 9:30am-3pm. For details of all activities contact: The Apuldram Centre, Apuldram Lane, Chichester, PO20 7PE. Tel: 01243 783370 or Leslie Burford (Secretary) on: 01243 377166.

National Learning Disability Helpline

The National Learning Disability Helpline, funded by the Department of Health and Mencap, provides a one-stop advice service for people with learning difficulties and their carers.

Tel: 0808 808 1111 (Mon-Fri 9.30am-4.30pm)

Pathway Employment Service

Provides a service to help people with learning difficulties aged 18-65 yrs towards employment. It canvasses for job opportunities, provides support through interviews, induction etc. Covers whole of West Sussex area. Tel: 01903 722812

For more details of this service, see website: www.mencap.org.uk or email: joanna.gill@mencap.org.uk

Respond

Runs training events as well as a helpline, staffed by trained counsellors experienced in working with people with learning difficulties wanting to talk about their experience of being abused or abusing others, as well as professionals, carers and families wanting to talk through issues.

Respond also has a group for people aged 16 yrs and under with learning difficulties who are in danger of being sexually abusive or whose behaviour is causing concern. Helpline: 0808 808 0700 (Mon & Thurs 2pm-7pm, Tue, Wed & Fri 12noon-5pm) Head office: 020 7383 0700

Website: www.respond.org.uk Email: admin@respond.org.uk

Riding for the Disabled *See entry in Chapter 13, Children with Special Needs*

United Response – Area Office

Services for people with learning difficulties including residential services, supported living, outreach and support services throughout West Sussex.

Contact: Fort Road Community Park, Fort Road East, Wick, Littlehampton, West Sussex, BN17 7QZ. Tel: 01903 732736 (Mon-Fri 9.00am-4.30pm).

VOICE UK

A national charity supporting people with learning disabilities and other vulnerable people who have experienced crime or abuse. We also support their families, carers and professional workers.

Telephone Helpline: 0845 122 8695 (Mon-Fri 9am-5pm)

Helpline Text Number: 07797800642

West Sussex Learning Links

Assists adults with learning difficulties, via a buddy, to attend adult education courses and some leisure activities. Local Contact Tel: 01243 826448
Main Office Tel: 01403 713513 (Mon-Thurs 9am-2pm)

Wrenford Centre

A day centre for adults with Learning Difficulties, including people with complex needs. Any service offered must be based on a social worker assessment. Activities include art, craft, leisure, sport, music and club 50 (for older people). Can also facilitate independent living skills, literacy-numeracy and IT through Chichester College. All programmes based on person-centred planning, and may take place at the Centre, Outreach, or in the community.
Contact: Wrenford Centre, Terminus Road, Chichester, PO19 2TX Tel: 01243 531931 or e-mail Deborah.Allsop@westsussex.gov.uk